

Appl. No. 10/615,412
Amendment Date: February 17, 2006
Reply to Office Action of December 14, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application; where claims have been cancelled, Applicant has cancelled the claims without prejudice and reserves the right to present the claims in a
5 continuing application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for receiving a specific product

10 recall_notice comprising:

receiving a signal that includes a single product identifier and a recall notice identifier, said single product identifier corresponding to a group of one or more products and said recall notice identifier corresponding to a description of a specific product recall notice wherein the textual

15 description is stored in a distal memory;

providing an indication to a user when the single product identifier corresponds at least in part to a product identifier stored in a receiver, said receiver being integral to a product;

and

20 recording in a substantially permanently permanent manner a time value reflecting at least one of a time-of-day, a system time and a date corresponding to when the signal is received and the recall notice identifier.

25 Claim 2 (cancelled).

Claim 3 (cancelled).

Claim 4 (cancelled).

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Claim 5 (cancelled).

Claim 6 (cancelled).

5 Claim 7 (currently amended): The method of Claim 1 further comprising:
capturing a time value from the signal when the signal includes a time-beacon; and
updating a local clock in the receiver according to the captured time value.

10 Claim 8 (cancelled).

Claim 9 (cancelled).

15 Claim 10 (cancelled).

Claim 11 (cancelled).

Claim 12 (cancelled).

20 Claim 13 (cancelled).

Claim 14 (cancelled).

25 Claim 15 (cancelled).

Claim 16 (cancelled).

Claim 17 (cancelled).

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Claim 18 (cancelled).

Claim 19 (cancelled).

5 Claim 20 (cancelled).

Claim 21 (cancelled).

Claim 22 (cancelled).

10 Claim 23 (cancelled).

Claim 24 (currently amended): A product centric method for receiving different specific product recall notice signals in receivers, each receiver being integral with a different product included in a group of products, and each recall notice signal including a product identifier and a recall notice identifier that identifies a specific textual description of the recall, comprising:
storing the recall notice identifier along with the textual description of the recall;
sensing a specific product recall notice signal in one or more of the receivers that are integral with the products included in the group of products; and selectively responding to the sensed product recall notice signal in a receiving group of products, said receiving group including receivers that sensed the product recall notice signals, when a sufficient match is present between the product identifier of the product recall notice signal and a product identifier stored in the receiver by:
providing an indication in each of the products in the receiving group that the recall notice signal has been received; and

storing in substantially permanent memory in each of the products in the receiving group the recall notice identifier of that specific product recall notice signal.

5 Claim 25 (cancelled).

Claim 26 (cancelled).

Claim 27 (cancelled).

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Claim 28 (cancelled).

Claim 29 (currently amended): A product centric method for receiving product recall notice signals in receivers, each receiver being integral with a different product of a group of one or more products comprising:

storing a product identifier in each of the receivers in said group of products;

sensing a recall notice signal in a receiving group ~~of one or more~~ of the receivers in said group of products, the recall notice signal including a product identifier and a notice identifier that corresponds to a particular recall;

establishing a time slot during which a recall notice signal can be received, each such time slot being selected on the basis of the product identifier stored in the receiver and selected from one of a succession of periodic time periods slots produced by a time clock;

selectively responding to the sensed recall notice signals in each of the receivers in the receiving group only if the sensed recall notice signal includes a product identifier that corresponds sufficiently to the product identifier stored in the receiver and only if the recall notice signal occurs during said time slot; and

storing in substantially permanent memory in each of the products that include a receiver in the receiving group the fact that a recall notice signal has been received.

5 Claim 30 (New): The method of claim 24 further including the step of storing in substantially permanent memory in each of the products in the receiving group the time and date that each such product recall notice signal was received.

10 Claim 31 (New): The method of claim 24 further including the step of transmitting an acknowledgement signal that the product recall notice signal has been received.

Claim 32 (New): A product centric method for receiving product recall notice
15 signals in the receivers of multiple target groups of products, each receiver being integral with a different product of a target group, comprising:

20 sensing a recall notice signal in the receivers in each target group of products, the recall notice signal including a product identifier and a notice identifier that corresponds to a description of a specific recall,
establishing a succession of periodic time slots over multiple time cycles, each time cycle including a plurality of periodic time slots during which recall notice signals can be received, each such time slot being selected from one of a succession of time periods on the basis of a product identifier stored in the receiver, and each target group of products being assigned to one or more time slots, the different target groups being assigned to different time slots;
selectively responding to the sensed recall notice signals in each of the receivers in a target group of products only if the sensed recall notice signal includes a product identifier that corresponds sufficiently to the

product identifier stored in the target group, and only if the recall notice signal occurs during the time slot assigned to said target group; and

storing in substantially permanent memory in each of the products of said target group the notice identifier and the fact that a recall notice signal has been received.

Claim 33 (New): The method of Claim 32 further including the step of storing in substantially permanent memory in each of the products of said target group

the time the recall notice signal was received.

Claim 34 (New): The method of Claim 32 further including the step of storing in substantially permanent memory in each of the products of said target group the date the recall notice signal was received.

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Claim 35 (New): The method of Claim 32 further including the step of storing in substantially permanent memory in each of the products of said target group the time and date each such recall notice signal was received.

20 Claim 36 (New): The method of Claim 32 further including the step of indicating at each of the products of the target groups that a recall notice signal has been received.

Claim 37 (New): The method of Claim 32 further including the step of storing in memory the recall notice identifier along with the textual description that corresponds to the recall notice.

30 Claim 38 (New): A product centric method for receiving product recall notice signals in receivers that are integral with different products of multiple target groups of products, comprising:

storing a product identifier in each of the receivers in said target groups of products;

5 sensing a recall notice signal that includes a recall notice identifier that corresponds to a specific recall, in the receivers in each of said target groups of products;

establishing a succession of time slots during which recall notice signals can be received,

10 selecting a first such time slot from the succession of time slots for each of the receivers in a first target group of products in the first target group of products;

selecting a second time slot from the succession of time slots for each of the receivers in a second target group of products in the second target group of products;

15 selectively responding to the sensed recall notice signals in each of the receivers in the first target group only if the sensed recall notice signal includes a product identifier that corresponds sufficiently to the product identifier stored in the receivers of said first target group, and only if the recall notice signal occurs during the time slot selected for said first target group;

selectively responding to the sensed recall notice signal in each of the receivers in a second target group of products only if the sensed recall notice signal includes a product identifier that corresponds sufficiently to the product identifier stored in the receivers of the second target group of products, and only if the recall notice signal occurs during the time slot selected for said second target group; and

25 storing the fact that a recall notice signal was received, and the notice identifier, in substantially permanent memory in each of the products that have responded to the sensed recall notice signal.

Claim 39 (New): The method as in claim 38, further including the steps of selecting multiple time slots, one for each of multiple target groups of products, each of the multiple time slots being effective for one of said multiple target groups of products.

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Claim 40 (New): The method as in claim 38, further including the steps of selecting a different time slot from the succession of time slots for each of the receivers in many different target groups, a different time slot being selected for each of the different target groups, and

10 the steps of selectively responding to the sensed recall notice signals in each of the receivers in a particular one of the many target groups comprise selectively responding only if the sensed recall notice signal includes a product identifier that corresponds sufficiently to the product identifier stored in the receivers of the particular target group, and only if the recall notice signal occurs during the time
15 slot selected for said particular target group.

Claim 41 (New): A product centric method for receiving product recall notice signals in the receivers of certain target groups of products, each receiver being integral with a different product of a target group of products, comprising:

20 sensing a recall notice signal that includes a recall notice identifier that corresponds to a specific recall, in a receiving group of one or more of the receivers in said group of products;
establishing a succession of periodic time slots over each of multiple time cycles, each time cycle including a plurality of periodic time slots during
25 which a recall notice signal can be received, each such time slot being selected from one of a succession of time periods produced by a time clock, and each target group of products being assigned to one or more time slots, the different target groups being assigned to different time slots;

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selectively responding to the sensed recall notice signals in each of the receivers in a target group of products only if the sensed recall notice signal includes a product identifier that corresponds sufficiently to the product identifier stored in the receivers of the target group, and only if the
5 recall notice signal occurs during the time slot assigned to the receivers of the target group; and

storing in substantially permanent memory in each of the products that has received a recall notice signal the fact that a recall notice signal has been received.

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Claim 42 (New): The method as in claim 41, wherein at least one target group is assigned to multiple time slots in a single time cycle.

15 Claim 43 (New): The method as in claim 41, wherein multiple target groups are assigned to different time slots in the same time cycle.

Claim 44 (New): The method as in claim 41, wherein at least one target group is assigned to time slots in multiple time cycles.